

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by either Iwasaki (JP 04-149945) or Kodama et al. (JP 2004-087174). Claims 2-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwasaki in view of Barna et al. Claims 2-7 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kodama et al. Claim 9 was objected to as being an improper multiple dependent claim. Claim 8 was allowed.

In accordance with this response, claims 1-7 and 9-11 have been canceled, thereby leaving only allowed claim 8 pending in the application. Allowed claim 8 has been revised in formal respects to bring it into better conformance with U.S. practice.

The specification has been revised in editorial respects. A new, more descriptive title has been added. A new abstract has also been added.

Applicant and applicant's attorney acknowledge with appreciation the allowability of claim 8. The prior art rejections of claims 1-7 and 10-11 and the objection to claim 9 have been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims.

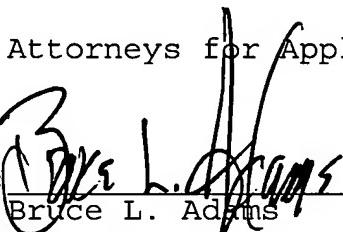
As all outstanding objections have been overcome and as only allowed claim 8 remains pending in the application, the application is now believed to be in allowable form.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

DIANE HEGSTROM

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August 10, 2009

Date